Homeland Security Investigations

Human Smuggling and
Trafficking Investigations
Handbook ~~i FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~
HSI HB 15-04 I August 21, 2015 ~~LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE~~
U.S. Immigration
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Foreword

The Hwnan Smuggling and Trafficking Investigations Handbook provides a single source of national policies. procedures, responsibilities, guidelines, and controls to be followed by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Special Agents when conducting investigations relating to human smuggling and trafficking. This Handbook contains instructions and guidance to help ensure uniformity and operational consistency among all HSI field offices. Oversight over the National Human Smuggling and Trafficking Investigations Program resides with the Unit Chief, Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit.

The Human Smuggling and Trafficking Investigations Handbook supersedes a number of policy docwnents issued by the fonner U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, the former ICE Office of Investigations, and HSI. See Appendix G for a detailed list of documents superseded by this Handbook.

The Hwnan Smuggling and Trafficking Investigations Handbook is an internal policy of HSI. It is not intended, does not, and may not be relied upon to create any right or benefit, substantive or
procedural, enforceable at law by any party in any administrative, civil, or criminal matter, nor are any limitations hereby placed on otherwise lawful enforcement prerogatives of ICE. This Handbook is For Official Use Only (FOUO) - Law Enforcement Sensitive. It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with Department of Homeland Security policy relating to FOUO information and the ICE Directive on Safeguarding Law Enforcement Sensitive Information. lbis information shall not be distributed beyond the original addressees without prior authorization of the originator. If disclosure of this Handbook or any portion of it is demanded in any judicial or administrative proceeding, the HSI Records and Disclosure Unit, as well as the ICE Office of the Principal Legal Advisor and/or the appropriate U.S. Attorney's Office, are to be consulted so that measures can be taken to invoke privileges against disclosure. This Handbook contains information which may be exempt from disclosure to the public under the Freedom oflnfonnation Act, Title 5, United States Code, Section 552(b), and protected from disclosure in civil discovery. Any further request for disclosure of this Handbook or infonnation contained herein should be ref erred to the HSI Records and Disclosure Unit.

The HSI Policy Unit is responsible for coordinating the development and issuance of HSI policy. All suggested changes or updates to this Handbook should be submitted to the HSI Policy Unit which will coordinate all needed revisions with the Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit.

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INVESTIGATIONS HANDBOOK

Table of Contents

Chapter 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE 1
Chapter 2. INTRODUCTION 1
Chapter 3. DEFINITIONS 1
• 3.1 Admission 1
• 3.2 Asylum 1
• 3.2.1 Affirmative Asylum Process 2
• 3.2.2 Defensive Asylum Process 2
• 3.3 Continued Presence 2
• 3.4 ~b)(7)(E) I 2
• 3.5 Debt Bondage 3
• 3.6 Deferred Action 3
• 3.7 Destination Country 3
• 3.8 Drop House 3
• 3.9 Forced Labor 3
• 3.10 Human Smuggling 3
• 3.11 Human Trafficking 3
• 3.12 Minor/Juvenile 4
• 3.13 Parole 4
• 3.14
• 3.15
• 3.16
• 3.17
Peonage 4
rb)(7)(E)
1
:: : : : :: : : :: : : ::
• 3.15 4
• 3.16 4
• 3.17 Refugee 5
• 3.18 Source Country 5
• 3.19 Special Interest Alien 5
• 3.20 Special Interest Country 5
• 3.21 Transit Country 5
• 3.22 Unaccompanied Child 5
Chapter 4. RESPONSIBILITIES 6
• 4.1 Executive Associate Director, Homeland Security Investigations 6
• 4.2 Assistant Director, Domestic Operations 6
• 4.3 Deputy Assistant Director, Transnational Crime and Public Safety Division 6
• 4.4 Unit Chief, Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit 6
• 4.5 Special Agents in Charge and Attaches 6
(b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E)

• 4.6 Group Supervisors 6
• 4.7 Special Agents 7
Chapter 5. HUMAN SMUGGLING STATUTES AND REFERENCES 7
• 5.1 Statutes 7
• 5.1.1 8 U.S.C. § 1324 – Bringing in and Harboring Certain Aliens 7
• 5.1.2 8 U.S.C. § 1327 – Aiding or Assisting Certain Aliens to Enter 8
• 5.1.3 8 U.S.C. § 1328 – Importation of Alien for Immoral Purpose 8
• 5.2 References 8
Chapter 6. HUMAN SMUGGLING INVESTIGATIVE GUIDANCE 10
• 6.1 Accomplishing the Mission 10
• 6.2 Identifying Human Smuggling Organizational Structures 11
• 6.3 Developing Targets 13
• 6.3.1 Resources for Target Development 13
• 6.3.2 Assistance from U.S. Customs and Border Protection 14
• 6.3.3 Smuggled Undocumented Aliens 14
• 6.4 Investigating Human Smuggling 14
• 6.5 Responding to Human Smuggling Incidents 15
• 6.5.1 Encountering Unaccompanied Children in Human Smuggling Investigations 16
Chapter 7. EXTRATERRITORIAL CRIMINAL TRAVEL STRIKE FORCE AND ILLICIT PATHWAYS ATTACK STRATEGY 16
• 7.1 Extraterritorial Criminal Travel Strike Force 16
• 7.2 Illicit Pathways and Attack Strategy 18
Chapter 8. HUMAN TRAFFICKING STATUTES AND REFERENCES 19
• 8.1
• 8.1.1
• 8.1.2
• 8.1.3
• 8.1.4
• 8.1.5
• 8.1.6
• 8.1.7
Statutes 19
• 8.1.1 18 U.S.C. § 1581 – Peonage; Obstructing Enforcement 19
• 8.1.2 18 U.S.C. § 1584 – Sale into Involuntary Servitude 19
18U• 8.1.3 18 U.S.C. § 1589 - ForcedLabor ..... – Forced Labor 19
• 8.1.4 18 U.S.C. § 1590 – Trafficking with Respect to Peonage, Slavery, Involuntary Servitude, or Forced Labor 19
• 8.1.5 18 U.S.C. § 1591 – Sex Trafficking of Children or by Force, Fraud, or Coercion 19
• 8.1.6 18 U.S.C. § 1592 – Unlawful Conduct with Respect to Documents

in FmtheranceFurtherance of Trafficking, Peonage, Slavery, Involuntary Servitude, or Forced Labor 20
• 8.1.7 18 U.S.C. § 1593A - Benefiting Financially from Peonage, Slavery, and Trafficking in Persons 20
(b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E)
(b) (7)(E)
Human Smuggling and Trafficking InvesligationsInvestigations Handbook
At1gust 21, 20/ 5
iiiii FOR OFFICIAL USE Ot\'H' ONLY
J,.j W P'FOHCEAh,NTAugust 21, 2015 LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE
2021-CILl-00031 B 159
• 8.1.8 18 U.S.C. § 1594 - General Provisions 20
• 8.1.9 Transpo1tationTransportation for Illegal Sexual Activity and Related Crimes 20
• 8.2 Human Trafficking Authorities/References 20
Chapter 9. HUMAN TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATIVE GUIDANCE 21
• 9.1 Indicators of Human Trafficking 22
• 9.2 HSI Trafficking in Persons Strategy ..... •
9.2 23
• 9.3 Sex Trafficking 25
• 9.4 Labor Trafficking 25
• 9.5 Human Smuggling v. Human Trafficking 25
• 9.6 Understanding Force, Fraud, and Coercion 26
• 9.7 Responding to Trafficking Victims'Victims' Leads 27
• 9.8 Victim-Centered Approach 29
• 9.9 Human Trafficking Computer-Based Training for Special Agents 30
Chapter 10. HUMAN SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING UNDERCOVER OPERATION AUTHORITY 30
• 10.1 Authority 30
• 10.2 International Alien Transportation Operations 32
• 10.3 Alien Transportation Operating Procedures ..... .32
• 10.4 Proprietary Drop House Operations ..... .35
• 10.5 Proceeds 37
Chapter 11. APPLICABLE MONEY LAUNDERING LAWS IN SUPPORT OF HUMAN SMUGGLING AND HUMAN SMUGGLING AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATIONS 37
• 11.1 Money Laundering Laws 38
• 11.2 Specified Unlawful Activities Related to Human Smuggling and Trafficking 3 838
• 11.3 Forfeiture Laws 38
• 11.4 Financial Investigative Methodology 39
Chapter 12. HOSTAGE SITUATIONS 40
• 12.1 Hostage Recovery ..... 40• 11.4 39
Chapter 12. 40
• 12.1 40
• 12.2 Guidelines 41
Chapter 13. IMMIGRATION RELIEF OPTIONS FOR HUMAN SMUGGLING AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATIONS 45
• 13.1 Material Witness Warrant ..... .45
• 13.2 Significant Public Benefit Parole 46
• 13.1 45

• 13.2 46
(b) (7)(E)
(b) (7)(E)
(b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E)
Human Smuggling and Trafficking Investigations Handbook
August 21, 2015
iii
2021-CILI-00031 B 160
iv FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE
• 13.3 Deferred Action 46
• 13.4 Administrative Stay of Removal 46
• 13.5 S Nonimmigrant Status 46
• 13.6 Departure Control Order 47
• 13.7 Continued Presence 47
• 13.8 T Nonimmigrant Status and U Nonimmigrant Status 48
• 13.9 Victim Assistance Coordinators and Victim Assistance Specialists ..... • 13.3 46
• 13.4 46
• 13.5 46
• 13.6 47
• 13.7 47
• 13.8 48
• 13.9 48
Chapter 14. CASE MANAGEMENT 49
• 14.1 TECS Case Categories 49
• 14.2 TECS Program Codes
..... 49
Chapter 15. INVESTIGATIVE RESOURCES 50
• 15.1
• 15.2
• 15.3
• 15.4
• 15.5
• 15.6
• 15.7
• 15.8
• 15.9
• 15.10
• 15.11
• 15.12
• 15.13
• 15.14
APPENDICES
Appendix A
Appendix B
Appendix C
Appendix D
Appendix E
Appendix F
Appendix G
Appendix H

Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit.. 51
• 15.2 Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center 51
• 15.3 National Human Trafficking Resource Center. 51
• 15.4 Victim Assistance Program 52
• 15.5 Forensic Interview Program 52
• 15.6 Office of Refugee Resettlement 53
• 15.7 Non-Governmental Organizations 53
• 15.8 HSI Office of Intelligence 53
• 15.9 Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit 54
• 15.10 Human Rights and Special Prosecution Section 54
• 15.11 International Organized Crime Intelligence and Operations Center 54
• 15.12 Special Operations Division 55
• 15.13 Undercover Operations 55
• 15.14 Counterterrorism and Criminal Exploitation Unit. 55
APPENDICES
Appendix A
..... A
Appendix B Domestic and International Undercover Alien Smuggling Investigations Approval Guidance Chart ..... A
Alien Tracking Sheet .... B
Interview Questions for Human Smuggling Investigations C
Interview Questions for Human Trafficking Investigations ..... D
Human Trafficking Case Notification ..... E
r b)(7)(E)
Superseded Documents ..... G
..... B
Appendix C C
Appendix D ..... D
Appendix E ..... E
Appendix F t
..... F
Appendix G ..... G
Appendix H Acronyms ..... H H (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E)

HUMAN SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING
INVESTIGATIONS HANDBOOK

Chapter 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Human Smuggling and Trafficking Investigations Handbook establishes policies and procedures to be followed by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Special Agents (SAs) when conducting human smuggling and human trafficking investigations within the scope of their authority.

Chapter 2. INTRODUCTION

HSI is committed to protecting the United States by combatting the worldwide problem of human smuggling and human trafficking. The mission ofHSI'sof HSI's Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit (HSTU) is to identify criminal smuggling and trafficking organizations, prioritize investigations according to the degree of risk posed by each to national security and public safety, and coordinate field office investigations around targeted organizations with the goal of eliminating their ability to function.

Chapter 3. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are provided for the purposes of this Handbook.

3.1 Admission

The lawful entry of an alien into the United States after inspection and authorization by an immigration officer. See Title 8, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 1101(a)(13)(A), Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), Section 101(a)(13)(A). Aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence are not generally regarded as seeking an admission upon entry to the United
States unless specific criteria enumerated in the INA hashave been met. 8 U.S.C. § l 1011101(a)(13)(C);
INA § 101(a)(13)(C). Under Board of Immigration Appeals precedent, a procedurally regular, but otherwise unlawful, entry can still constitute an admission. For example, an alien who presents a fraudulent passport when entering the United States would be considered admitted. He or she would be placed in proceedings under chapter 237 of the INA, rather than under chapter 212.

3.2 Asylum

A discretionary form of protection available to aliens physically present in the United States who meet the definition of a refugee under 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(42), INA § 101 (a)(42), and are not otherwise barred from receiving it. See 8 U.S.C. §§ 1158(a), (b), INA §§ 208(a), (b). Once an alien has been granted asylum, he or she may not be removed to his or her country of nationality
or, in the case of an alien with no nationality, to his or her country of last habitual residence. See

8 U.S.C. § 11 581158(c)(l1), INA § 208(c)(l1). Once an alien has been granted asylum, he or she becomes eligible for other immigration benefits. See 8 U.S.C. §§ l 1581158(c)(l1)(B), (C), INA §§ 208(c)(l1)(B), (C).

3.2.1 Affirmative Asylum Process

The process whereby an alien seeks asylum by submitting an Application for Asylum and Withholding of Removal (U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Form 1I-589) to USCIS. There are seven steps in the affirmative asylum process: (1) the alien arrives in the United States, (2) the alien applies for asylum, (3) USCIS conducts fingerprinting and background/security checks, (4) the alien receives an interview notice, (5) a USCIS Asylum Officer (AO) conducts an interview with the alien, (6) the AO makes a determination on eligibility and the Supervisory Asylum Officer reviews the decision, and (7) the alien receives the decision. See USCIS Affirmative Asylum Procedures Manual, dated November 2007, revised July 2010, or as updated. If the AO does not approve the application of an alien who is inadmissible or deportable, the AO shall refer the application to an immigration judge for adjudication in removal proceedings. See Title 8, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), Section 1208.14(c)(l1).

3.2.2 Defensive Asylum Process

The process whereby an alien who has not affirmatively applied for asylum with USCIS may nevertheless seek asylum before an immigration judge as a defense to, or relief from, removal. In such cases, the alien submits the application to the immigration judge who will determine whether the alien is eligible for relief during the course of the immigration proceedings. See 8 C.F.R. § 1208.2(b), (c).

3.3 Continued Presence

Continued Presence (CP) is a temporary immigration status provided to individuals identified by law enforcement as victims of human trafficking. This status allows eligible aliens to remain in the United States temporarily during the ongoing investigation into the human trafficking-related
crimes committed against them. CP is initially granted for 1 year and may be renewed in I~~1~~-year increments. CP is authorized under provisions of section 107(c)(3) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA), which has since been reauthorized, and is codified at 22 U.S.C. § 7105(c)(3).

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3.5 Debt Bondage

The status or condition of a debtor arising from a pledge by the debtor of his or her personal services or of those of a person under his or her control as a security for debt, if the value of those services as reasonably assessed is not applied toward the liquidation of the debt or the length and nature of those services are not respectively limited and defined. An individual will often pledge himself or someone under his or her control into debt bondage in exchange for passage into the United States. See 22 U.S.C. § 7102(4).

3.6 Def erred~~Deferred~~ Action

An act of administrative convenience to the government which gives some cases lower priority. See 8 C.F.R. § 274a.12(c)(l4~~14~~).

3.7 Destination Country

The termination point or last country of the undocumented~~illegal~~ alien (UDA)'s~~IA)'s~~ journey and where the
UDA~~IA~~ intends
to reside.

3.8 Drop House

A residence or building in the United States that is used to harbor a group of smuggled aliens after they entered the United States illegally. Typically, aliens are held at the "~~"~~drop house"~~"~~ until
their smuggling fee has been paid and/or while they await transport to another location.

3.9 Forced Labor

Labor or services of a person that is provided or obtained by threats of serious harm to, or physical restraint against, that person or another person, by means of any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause the person to believe that if he or she did not perform such labor or services, he or she or another person would suffer serious harm or physical restraint, or by means
of the abuse or threatened abuse of law or the legal process. See 18 U.S.C. § 1589.

3.10 Human Smuggling

The facilitation and transportation of people into the United States by deliberately evading U.S.

immigration laws. This offense includes bringing UDAsIAs into the United States and unlawfully transporting and/or harboring aliens already present. (Note: The statute governing this range of
offenses is 8 U.S.C. § 1324.)

3.11 Human Trafficking

There are two kinds of human trafficking: sex trafficking and labor trafficking.

A. Sex trafficking is a commercial sex act that is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person who is induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age.

B. Labor trafficking involves the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a victim by means of threat or use of force or coercion, thus subjecting the victim to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. Involuntary servitude can be induced by means of:

1) any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that, if the person did not enter into, or continue in, such condition, that person, or another person, would suffer serious harm or physical restraint; or

2) the abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process.

See generally 18 U.S.C. §§ 1581-1596; 22 U.S.C. §§ 7101-7112; 42 U.S.C. § 14044; INA § 212(a)(2)(H).

3.12 Minor/Juvenile

A minor or juvenile is an individual who has not attained 18 years of age.

3.13 Parole

A grant of parole permits an otherwise inadmissible alien to be present in the United States temporarily due to urgent humanitarian concerns or to provide a significant benefit to the United
States. See 8 U.S.C. § l 18211182(d)(5)(A); INA § 212(d)(5)(A). Parole does not confer any immigration status upon the alien.

3.14 Peonage

Peonage is the use of laborers bound to servitude due to debt. See generailygenerally 18 U.S.C. §§ 1581-
1596; see also Section 3.1 l11(B) above.

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3.17 Refugee

A. Any person who is outside of his or her country of nationality or, if he or she has no nationality, country of last residence, and is unable or unwilling to return to that country or avail himself or herself of that country'scountry's protection due to past persecution

or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group. See 8 U.S.C. §l 10l1101(a)(42)(A), INA§ 10l § 101(a)(42)(A).

B. In such circumstances as the President after appropriate consultation may specify, any person who is within the country of such person'sperson's nationality or, in the case of a person having no nationality, within the country in which such person is habitually residing, and who is persecuted or who has a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. See 8 U.S.C. §l 1011101(a)(42)(B), INA § 101(a)(42)(B).

3.18 Source Country

A source country is the UDA'sIA's country of origin. The term is also used in TECS to define the country/countries where the criminal activity originated. For example, where a Brazilian citizen or national is smuggled from Brazil, through Mexico, to the United States, the source country would be Brazil.

3.19 Special Interest Alien

A citizen or national of a country of current national security concern to the United States.

3.20 Special Interest Country

A country from which terrorism or national security threats to the United States originate or have
been present.

3.21 Transit Country

A country, or countries, through which a UDAan IA travels after departing his or her source country
and
prior to arriving at his or her destination country. Aliens may travel through multiple transit countries. For example, an alien from South Korea may be smuggled through France and Canada (in this case the transit countries) before a1Tivingarriving at his or her destination country, the
United States.

3.22 Unaccompanied Alien Child

An unaccompanied alien child is a minor who has no lawful immigration status in the United States,
has not attained 18 years of age, has no parent or legal guardian in the United States, or has no
parent or legal guardian in the United States who is available to provide care and physical

custody. See Homeland Security Act of2002of 2002 § 462(g); 6 U.S.C. § 279(g); adopted by Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) § 235(g). (Note: Not all unaccompanied alien children have been smuggled or trafficked.)

Chapter 4. RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Executive Associate Director, Homeland Security Investigations

The Executive Associate Director (EAD) of HSI has the overall responsibility for the oversight of the policies and procedures set forth in this Handbook.

4.2 Assistant Director, Domestic Operations

The Assistant Director (AD), Domestic Operations, is responsible for approving undercover investigations involving the domestic transp01tationtransportation and release of UDAsIAs that are limited in scoped

scoped (see Section 10.1). The AD, Domestic Operations, in consultation with the Deputy Assistant
Director (DAD), Transnational Crime and Public Safety Division (TCPSD), is also responsible
for resolving any disputes if the receiving Special Agent in Charge (SAC) does not concur with
the release ofUDAsof IAs within his or her area ofresponsibilityof responsibility (AOR) (see Section 10.3
(J)).

4.3 Deputy Assistant Director, Transnational Crime and Public Safety Division

The DAD, TCPSD, is responsible for ensuring overall compliance with the provisions of this Handbook. In addition, the DAD, TCPSD, will coordinate with the AD, Domestic Operations, to resolve any disputes if the receiving SAC does not concur with the release ofUDAsof IAs within his or
her AOR (see Section 10.3 (J)).

4.4 Unit Chief, Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit

The Unit Chief, HSTU, has the overall responsibility for the implementation of the provisions of this Handbook.

4.5 Special Agents in Charge and Attaches Attachés

Special Agents in Charge (SACs) and AttachesAttachés are responsible for implementing the provisions
of this Handbook within their respective areas ofresponsibility (AO Rs). of responsibility (AORs).

4.6 Group Supervisors

Group Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that the human smuggling and human trafficking
related activities of the SAs they supervise, including reporting and case coding requirements, are in compliance with the provisions of this Handbook.

4. 7 Special Agents

SAs are responsible for complying with the provisions of this Handbook.

Chapter 5. HUMAN SMUGGLING STATUTES AND REFERENCES

The most commonly utilized criminal statutes when investigating human smuggling criminal activity are codified in Chapter 12 of Title 8 of the United States Code, entitled, "Immigration and Nationality." This Chapter provides a brief summary of what each statute or subsection refers to in terms of the criminal committing the violation. SAs should consult with their local Office of the Chief Counsel (OCC) and U.S. Attorney'sAttorney's Office (USAO) for a discussion of additional legal aspects of these or other related statutes.

8 U.S.C. § 1324 uses the term "alien smuggling." Criminal organizations that violate the laws discussed in this Handbook are often called Human Smuggling Organizations (HSOs). (Note: For the purposes of this Handbook, the terms "alien smuggling" and "human smuggling" are used interchangeably.)

5.1 Statutes

5.1.1 8 U.S.C. § 1324 - Bringing in and Harboring Certain Aliens

This Section details the criminal penalties and elements of alien smuggling and accounts for the multiple individuals who may be involved in the scheme (e.g., foot guide, transporter, and harborer).

There are five distinct offenses that can be charged under 8 U.S.C. § 1324:

A. 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(l1)(A)(i) -– Bringing In
This section of the statute refers to the person who, knowing that a person is a UDAan IA, brings or attempts to bring the UDAIA across the U.S. border.
B. 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(l1)(A)(ii) -– Transporting
This section of the statute refers to the person who, knowingly or in reckless disregard, transports or attempts to transport the UDAIA within the United States. The criminal need not know that the individuals are UDAsIAs, but the circumstances dictate that
the person should have known that the individuals entered the United States illegally
and thus aided the violation.

C. 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(l1)(A)(iii)-) – Harboring
This section of the statute refers to the person who, knowingly or in reckless disregard, provides or attempts to provide a location where a UDAan IA can remain to assist assist him or her from detection.
D. 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(l1)(A)(iv) -– Encouraging
This section of the statute refers to the person who encourages or induces a UDAan IA to come, enter, or reside in the United States knowing or in reckless disregard that such entry will be in violation of law.
E. 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(l1)(A)(v)-) – Conspiring or Aiding and Abetting
This section refers to the person whose assistance and cooperation was integral to the execution of any criminal activity described in Subsections A, B, C, and D.
The maximum penalties for human smuggling are listed in 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(l1)(B). SAs should consult with their local USAO on a case-by-case basis to determine how the individual'sindividual's
criminal history or other aggravating factors could impact sentencing.
5.1.2 8 U.S.C. § 1327 -– Aiding or Assisting Certain Aliens to Enter
This statute refers to any person who facilitates the entry into the United States of a UDAan IA, knowing that the UDAIA was previously convicted in the United States of an aggravated felony or a
a crime involving national security.
5.1.3 8 U.S.C. § 1328 -– Importation of Alien for Immoral Purpose
This statute refers to any person who smuggles aliens into the United States for the purposes of prostitution.
5.2 References
A. Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004.
B. Department of Justice (DOJ), "“Human Rights and Special Prosecution Section, " ,” dated September 12, 2012, or as updated http://www.justice.gov/criminal/hrsp/.
C. "“DHS Blue Campaign: Trafficking vs. Smuggling Brochure and Checklist"” (undated).
D. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and ICE Policy, "“Controlled Deliveries, Cold Convoys, and Pass-Through Operations at Ports of Entry,",” dated February 18, 2010, or as updated.

E. ICE Directive 10071.1, ""Victim Assistance Program,",," dated August 25, 2011, or as updated.
F. ICE Delegation Number 0001 entitled, ""Delegation of Authority to the Directors, Detention and Removal and Investigations, and to Field Office Directors, Special Agents in Charge and Certain Other Officers of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement,",," dated June 6, 2003, or as updated.
G. Detention and Removal Operations (DRO)/Office oflnvestigations (01)of Investigations (OI) memorandum, ""DRO/O1OI Protocols and Handling Unaccompanied Alien Children,",," dated October l1, 2007, or as updated.
H. HSI ""Human Smuggling Strategy,",," dated January 2015, or as updated.
I. HSI memorandum, ""Role & Responsibilities of Field Coordinators in Support of the S-Nonimmigrant Visa (S-Visa) Program,",," dated July 19, 2010, or as updated.
J. HSI Memorandum, ""Domestic and International Undercover Alien Smuggling Investigations,",," dated March 23, 2012, or as updated.
K. 01OI memorandum, ""Interim Policy and Guidelines for Immediate Assumption of Significant Public Benefit Parole Responsibilities,",," dated August 8, 2006, or as updated.
L. 01OI memorandum, ""Accountability of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Significant Public Benefit Paroles,",," dated June 27, 2006, or as updated.
M. Financial Investigations Handbook (HSI Handbook (HB) 14-03), dated May 13, 2014, or as updated.
N. Cyber Crimes Investigations Handbook (HSI HB 11-03), dated August 9, 2011, or as updated.
0 O. Case Management Handbook (01OI HB 08-02), dated February 1, 2008, or as updated.
P. ""HSTU TECS CODES Spreadsheet,",," dated January 28, 2013, or as updated.
Q. ""ECT Brochure,",," dated November 2012, or as updated.
R. ""Illicit Pathways Attack Strategy (IPAS) Brochure,",," dated December 2012, or as updated.
S. ""Project Stamp Brochure,",," dated May 2012, or as updated.
T. ""Extraterritorial Criminal Travel Strike Force Expansion and Institutionalization"" (undated).

U. ""Proposal to Enhance the ECT Strike Force"" (undated).
V. Domestic and International Undercover Alien Smuggling Investigations Approval Guidance Chart (see Appendix A).

Chapter 6. HUMAN SMUGGLING INVESTIGATIVE GUIDANCE

Human smuggling is a transnational crime committed by violators whose ultimate goal is to make a financial profit. UDAsIAs choose to enter other countries illegally for many reasons, such as
religion, politics, employment, and/or education. In some cases, a UDAan IA will enter into an

agreement with a smuggler to illegally enter the United States. The human smuggler will in tumturn
determine a set fee depending on the method or route used by the HSO or the individual. HSOs vary by the nationality of aliens smuggled, size of organization, levels of hierarchy, and sophistication of their method of operation.
HSOs operate by establishing a network that facilitates the undetected movement ofUDAsof IAs from
source countries through transit countries with the ultimate goal of successfully entering the United States in violation of U.S. law.
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HSOs are ever-changing in their level of sophistication and have become increasingly violent by engaging in kidnapping, exto1tionextortion, assault, and rape. Some of these activities have even resulted
in the death ofUDAs. of IAs.
6.1 Accomplishing the Mission
HSI'sHSI's mission can be accomplished domestically and internationally by pursuing, identifying,
investigating, disrupting, and dismantling HSOs in the United States and in transit countries, and
by:
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6.2 Identifying Human Smuggling Organizational Structures
HSOs can vary in several ways, including the number of co-conspirators, operating structure, financial structure, areas of operation, and nationality of the aliens the organization smuggles. Human smuggling operations can be as small as an individual operating independently or as large as an organization. The individual or organization provides a guide, transportation, and temporary housing for aliens at points along the journey and/or once they arrive in the United States. HSOs are more or anized in that the have defined roles for each member and a clear chain of command. b)(?)(El
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HSOs generally have the following operating structure:
A. Head of the Organization
The head of the organization is responsible for the oversight of the operation; he or she maintains continuous communication and coordinates the criminal activity with co-conspirators. This person shares in a major portion of the profits of the operation and, in many instances, escapes prosecution because he or she seldom participates directly in the actual smuggling activity.
B. Recruiters
The recruiters are the persons who are usually located outside the United States and are responsible for identifying aliens seeking to be smuggled into the United States. Recruiters are generally paid according to the number of UDAs who are successfully smuggled into the United States.

C. Guides
Guides, often referred to as "coyotes," are the persons responsible for leading individual(s) illegally across the U.S. border. The guides are usually present for the border crossing but depart from the United States after delivering the UDAs to a designated location near the border. In some cases, there may be multiple sets of guides, for example one on each side of the border. In many instances, if guides are apprehended, they will attempt to assume the role of smuggled aliens.
D. Transporter
The transporter, often referred to as "the driver," is the person who conveys aliens from one location to another in furtherance of the aliens' illegal entry into the United States. Transporters often pick up UDAs at staging locations and transport them to drop houses in the United States. Transporters can use multiple types of conveyances, such as pickup trucks, vans, cars, boats, and tractor trailers to transport the UDAs. Alien smuggling offenses are not restricted to the time period immediately after entry.
E. Drop House Operators
A drop house operator is responsible for maintaining the drop house location(s) along the U.S. border and in interior U.S. cities, as well as running all facets of the drop house operations. The responsibilities of a drop house operator include, but are not limited to, detaining and maintaining the UDAs in the drop house until receipt of the smuggling fees, hiring and paying the guides and drivers, and coordinating travel arrangements to the next or final destination of the UDAs. The drop house operators also work with money collectors to coordinate the collection of smuggling fees or to collect money for themselves. The drop house operators also ensure that the UDAs are fed and that they do not leave the location until the smuggling fee is paid.
F. Facilitators
Most large HSOs obtain the assistance of facilitators. Facilitators are often individuals with lawful immigration or citizenship status (e.g., lawful permanent resident or U.S. citizen). Facilitators are responsible for renting properties to be used as drop houses in the United States, renting or purchasing means for transporting UDAs, obtaining cellular telephones, and recovering seized vehicles from impound lots. Some facilitators are hired for the purpose of providing false documents, which can be genuine, counterfeit, or altered documents.
G. Money Couriers
Most large HSOs include money couriers. Money couriers are responsible for collecting alien smuggling fees~rb-)(7-)(_E_) ----------~

(Note: Smugglers may perform one or more of the above roles at any given time. For instance, during the course of an investigation, a drop house may be discovered and the harborer may be arrested. Therefore, the criminal organization may require that a transporter or guide take on the role of the harborer.)
6.3 Developing Targets
SAs should consider several factors in the development of a target. Some of the common factors
include, but are not limited to, the following:
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6.3.1 Resources for Target Development
During target development, SAs are likely to receive information concerning HSOs and allegations that certain individuals are actively engaged in the smuggling of aliens into the United States. While considering the above factors, SAs should l(b)(?)(E)
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6.3.2 Assistance from U.S. Customs and Border Protection
SAs should seek assistance from the CBP Office of Field Operations (OFO) and Office of Border Patrol (OBP) in human smuggling investigations when necessary. OBP utilizes various resources to combat human smu Jin that ma be useful to HSI SAs durin their investi ations of HSOs. Resources utilize b)(7l(E)
(b)(7)(E)
6.3.3 Smuggled Undocumented Aliens
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6.4 Investigating Human Smuggling
When conducting a human smuggling investigation, SAs should try to:
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6.5 Responding to Human Smuggling Incidents
When responding to a human smuggling incident, SAs shall:
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6.5.1 Encountering Unaccompanied Alien Children in Human Smuggling Investigations
HHS is responsible for the care and custody of unaccompanied alien children, including responsibility
for detention where appropriate. SAs shall contact the Enforcement and Removal Operations Operations (ERO) Field Office Juvenile Coordinator (FOJC) in their AOR upon encountering an individual
who claims to be an unaccompanied alien child or the SAs suspect is an unaccompanied alien child, or

where it cannot be determined within the 72-hour period that the unaccompanied alien child is a victim of human trafficking as outlined in Section 9. 7 of this Handbook. The SA must also contact DUCS by calling the 24-hour DUCS Intake Hotline a~b)(?)(E) ~nd at and emailing l(b)(?)(E) I@acf.hhs.gov with the information about he unaccompamedthe unaccompanied alien child.

The ERO FOJC is responsible for coordinating the actual placement of juveniles with ORR. Prior to transferring the juvenile into the custody of DUCS, the juvenile shall be served with an appropriate removal charging document (e.g., Notice to Appear (Department of Homeland Security (OHS) Fonn I-862) or Notice of the Intent/Decision to Reinstate Prior Order (DHS) Form 1-871))I-862) under section 240 of the INA. SAs should continue to investigate whether or not the unaccompanied alien child is a crime victim. If it is determined that the unaccompanied alien child is in fact a crime victim, SAs should follow the procedures stated in Section 9.7 (F) of this Handbook.

(Note: For further policy guidance pertaining to the handling of unaccompanied alien children by ERO and HSI, see the DRO/OI memorandum entitled, "“DRO/OI Protocols and Handling Unaccompanied Alien Children,",” dated October 1, 2007, or as updated. See also Appendix B, "“Alien Tracking Sheet,",” and Appendix C, "“Interview Questions for Human Smuggling Investigations.",”

(Note: The above steps are not exhaustive. SAs should use their knowledge and judgment as situations arise.)

Chapter 7. EXTRATERRITORIAL CRIMINAL TRAVEL STRIKE FORCE AND ILLICIT PATHWAYS ATTACK STRATEGY

7.1 Extraterritorial Criminal Travel Strike Force

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7.2 Illicit Pathways Attack Strategy

The IP AS is HS I's internal implementation plan to support the Transnational Organized Crime (TOC) Strategy which was revised by the National Security Council in 2011.
The IP AS is built upon the following four core principles:

A. Working with counterparts to investigate, identify, disrupt, and dismantle transnational criminal organizations prior to their illicit activities reaching U.S. borders;
B. Prioritization of networks and pathways posing the greatest threats;
C. Robust interagency engagement; and
D. A coordinated regional approach that leverages foreign partners.
HSI designed the IP AS to build, balance, and integrate its authorities and resources, both domestic and foreign, in a focused and comprehensive manner to target, disrupt, and dismantle
transnational organized crime. As recognized in the TOC Strategy, resources are not limitless. Therefore, targets must be prioritized in a systematic manner. The IP AS provides a methodology
and mechanism for HSI to prioritize threats and vulnerabilities within its mission and to coordinate its own efforts internally and within the interagency framework. HSTU is responsible for designating a case as an IP AS investigation based on established criteria.
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Chapter 8. HUMAN TRAFFICKING STATUTES AND REFERENCES

The most commonly used human trafficking criminal statutes are codified in Chapter 77 of Title 18 of the United States Code. SAs should consult their local OCC and USAO for a discussion of additional legal aspects relating to these statutes.

8.1 Statutes

8.1.1 18 U.S.C. § 1581 -~~–~~ Peonage; Obstructing Enforcement

This statute refers to the criminal who maintains custody of the victim, physically or psychologically, for the purposes of peonage (defined in Section 3.14). See 18 U.S.C. § 1581(a). This statute also refers to criminals who attempt to obstruct justice related to this crime. See 18 U.S.C. § 1581(b). The statute includes the corresponding penalty.

8.1.2 18 U.S.C. § 1584 -~~–~~ Sale into Involuntary Servitude

This statute refers to the criminal who maintains custody of the victim, physically or psychologically, for the purposes of involuntary servitude as defined in Section 3.11. See 18 U.S.C. § 1584(a). This statute also refers to criminals who attempt to obstruct justice in relation to this crime. See 18 U.S.C. § 1584(b). The statute includes the corresponding penalty.

8.1.3 18 U.S.C. § 1589 -~~–~~ Forced Labor

This statute refers to criminals who provide or obtain the labor of a person, or benefit from providing or obtaining such labor by means such as force or threats of force, serious harm or threats of serious harm, or abuse or threats of abuse. See 18 U.S.C. § 1589(a). The employer(s) who engage in the providing or obtaining of the labor can also be charged. See 18 U.S.C. § 1589(b). The statute includes the corresponding penalty.

8.1.4 18 U.S.C. § 1590 -~~–~~ Trafficking with Respect to Peonage, Slavery, Involuntary Servitude, or Forced Labor

This statute refers to criminals who knowingly recruit, harbor, transpo1t~~transport~~, provide, or obtain by
any means any person for forced labor.

8.1.5 18 U.S.C. § 1591 -~~–~~ Sex Trafficking of Children or by Force, Fraud, or Coercion

This statute refers to trafficking with respect to sex trafficking of a minor or of any person by force, fraud, or coercion. It also refers to anyone who benefits financially or receives anything of

value from the sex trafficking of any person. See 18 U.S.C. § 1591(a). The statute also outlines the corresponding punishment for sex trafficking depending on the age of the victim. See 18 U.S.C. § 1591(b).

8.1.6 18 U.S.C. § 1592 -– Unlawful Conduct with Respect to Documents in Furtherance of Trafficking, Peonage, Slavery, Involuntary Servitude, or Forced Labor

This statute refers to criminals who knowingly destroy, conceal, remove, confiscate, or possess any actual or purported passports or other immigration document, or any other actual or purported government identification document of another person to fmtherfurther the trafficking of
person(s). The statute includes the corresponding penalty.

8.1.7 18 U.S.C. § 1593A -– Benefiting Financially from Peonage, Slavery, and Trafficking in Persons

This statute prohibits anyone from knowingly benefiting, financially or by receiving anything of value, from participation in a venture which has engaged in any act in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 158l1581(a), 1592, or 1595(a), knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that the venture has engaged in these acts by any means.

8.1.8 18 U.S.C. § 1594 -– General Provisions

This statute refers to the punishment of persons who attempt to violate or conspire with another
to violate specific sections of Title 18 of the U.S. Code. Punishment includes civil forfeiture. Subsection (f) of this section relates to witness protection; specifically, any violation of this chapter shall be considered an organized criminal activity or other serious offense for the purposes of application of chapter 224 (relating to witness protection). See 18 U.S.C. § l 5941594(f).

8.1.9 Transportation for Illegal Sexual Activity and Related Crimes

The following statutes, codified in 18 U.S.C. Chapter 117, Transportation for Illegal Sexual Activity and Related Crimes, are often utilized in human trafficking investigations, because the elements of these statutes frequently align with fact patterns similar to human trafficking investigations. These statutes, commonly known as the "“Mann Act,",” are detailed under 18 U.S.C. §§ 2421-2423. In general, these statutes prohibit anyone from knowingly transporting or attempting to transport a person in interstate or foreign commerce, or in any territory or possession of the United States, with the intent that the person engage in prostitution or any sexual activity.

8.2 Human Trafficking Authorities/References

A. Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004.

B. Trafficking Victim Protection Act (TVPA) of2000of 2000 and all subsequent TVPA Re-Authorizations.

C. " “Interagency Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Justice,",” dated July 12, 2004, or as updated.

2021-icli-00031 181
D. DOJ, "“Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit,",” dated September 12, 2012, or as updated http://www.justice.gov/crt/about/crm/htpu.php.
E. DOJ, "“Human Rights and Special Prosecution Section,",” dated September 12, 2012
http://www.justice.gov/criminal/hrsp/.
F. "“DHS Blue Campaign: ICE Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons-Fact Sheet,",” dated November 1, 201 1~~2011~~, or as updated.
G. "“DHS Blue Campaign: Trafficking vs. Smuggling Brochure and Checklist"” (undated).
H. "“DHS/DHS Human Trafficking Initiative from Senior Counselor Hill"” (undated).
I. ICE Directive 10071.1, "“Victim Assistance Program,",” dated August 25, 2011, or as updated.
J. HSI Directive 10075.1, "“Continued Presence,",” dated April 6, 2011 , or as updated.
K. DRO/O1~~OI~~ memorandum, "“DRO/O1~~OI~~ Protocols and Handling Unaccompanied Alien Children,",” dated October 1, 2007, or as updated.
L. HSI memorandum, "“Role & Responsibilities of Field Coordinators in Support of the S-Nonimmigrant Visa (S-Visa) Program,",” dated July 19, 2010, or as updated.
M. 01~~OI~~ memorandum, "“Interim Policy and Guidelines for Immediate Assumption of Significant Public Benefit Parole Responsibilities,",” dated August 8, 2006, or as updated.
N. 01~~OI~~ memorandum, "“Accountability of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Significant Public Benefit Paroles,",” dated June 27, 2006, or as updated.
Chapter 9. HUMAN TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATIVE GUIDANCE
HSI conducts human trafficking investigations to combat the criminal exploitation and victimization of persons regardless of the persons'~~persons'~~ manner of entry into the United States,
citizenship, or immigration status. Victims of human trafficking may have entered the United States lawfully only to be subjected to exploitation at a later time. Although HSI primarily focuses on the investigation of human trafficking violations involving foreign nationals (perpetrators or victims), SAs have the jurisdiction to also target trafficking investigations involving domestic victims with no international nexus. Different groups or individuals may be involved in different phases of the process, such as the recruitment of victims in foreign countries, their cross-border transportation, and their exploitation in the United States. The globalization of economic systems and developments in transportation and communication

technologies has also created enormous opportunities for organized smuggling and human trafficking. Just as human trafficking organizations (HTOs) have gained sophistication by adopting modem~~modern~~ transportation infrastructure and global communication technologies, HSI and
its law enforcement partners must evolve and collaborate more effectively to combat human trafficking that is affecting countries around the world.
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9.1 Indicators of Human Trafficking
The following are indicators of potential human trafficking situations:
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2021-icli-00031 183
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9.2 HSI Trafficking in Persons Strategy
As part of HSI's continuing efforts to enhance its investigative capability to target human traffickers globally, HSI has developed a comprehensive strategy through which it will target criminal organizations and individuals engaged in trafficking in persons. The primary components of the Trafficking in Persons Strategy (TIPS) are outreach, coordination, and coalition building. In addition, HSI has partnered with state, local, federal, and international law enforcement components to develop universal strategies and investigative techniques to infiltrate
HTOs and those involved in trafficking men, women, and children for the purpose of forced labor and forced commercial sex. The key objectives of this Handbook are to assist SAs in identifying HTOs, prioritizing investigations according to the degree of risk posed to national security and public safety, and coordinating investigations in order to dismantle HTOs and eliminate their ability to function and seize their illicit assets.
A. Outreach
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2021-CILl-00031 B 184
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HSTU monitors and drives outreach efforts by requiring a quarterly outreach report to be submitted by SAC and Attache offices. The repo1ts consist of specific information regarding the NGOs, as well as content and frequency of contact.
B. Coordination
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C. Coalition Building
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2021-CILl-00031 B 185
9.3 Sex Trafficking
Sex trafficking is a type of human trafficking in which the victim is induced to engage in commercial sex acts, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1591(e)(3), or in which the person induced to perform such acts has not attained 18 years of age. The primary purpose behind this form of h·affickingtrafficking is to generate profits through the sexual exploitation of the victims. In some cases,
victims may have initially been willing participants but were subsequently coerced, threatened,

or forced to remain in the situation. Victims are often forced to perform in various roles which can eventually lead to sexual exploitation. These roles include, but are not limited to, prostitution and working in adult entertainment establishments such as strip clubs, cantina bars,
or private call services known as "“deliveries.".” However, it is important to keep in mind that, for
a violation to be considered sex trafficking, the victims must be engaged in, or have offered to engage in, commercial sex acts.
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9.4 Labor Trafficking
Labor trafficking centers on the exploitation of a person'sperson’s production or ability to provide a
service by means of force, fraud, or coercion. Similarly to sex trafficking, regardless of whether or not victims have a debt to be paid, victims are made to do manual labor or services thus generating profits for their exploiters. Slavery, peonage, debt bondage, and involuntary servitude
fall under this form of labor trafficking and can involve work in areas such as agriculture, manufacturing, or service industries, such as domestic workers who work in-home, e.g., a maid or a caretaker.
9.5 Human Smuggling vs. Human Trafficking
Although trafficking victims are often found in sweatshops, service industries, residential homes
(where they perform domestic work), agricultural labor, prostitution, or sex entertainment, they may be found anywhere in the United States doing anything that is profitable to their exploiters.
Victims may not recognize that they have been victimized or may be forced into protecting their exploiters. As a result, self-identifying as a victim is not a requirement to be considered a victim of human trafficking. Both domestic and foreign victims are often lured into or within the United States with promises of legitimate employment, tourism, and educational
oppo1tunities,opportunities,
only to find themselves exploited in the commercial sex industry or in forced labor situations. Foreign victims find themselves in a foreign country and often they cannot speak the native language of the foreign country. Traffickers often take away the victims'victims’ travel and identity
documents and threaten victims by telling them that, if they attempt to escape, they or their families will be harmed or the victims'victims’ families will assume the victims'victims’ debt.
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It may be difficult to distinguish between smuggling and trafficking in the initial phas ephase of the
investigation. l(b)(7)(E) - -
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9.6 Understanding Force, Fraud, and Coercion
The following are some examples of force, fraud, or coercion:
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9.7 Responding to Trafficking Victims' Leads

The critical first steps in pursuing any human trafficking lead are the immediate rescue of any identified or potential victims from dangerous situations and the swift determination of any human trafficking indicators. When HSI receives a lead involving a potential human trafficking case or victim, SAs will proceed as follows:

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(Note: For further guidance and requirements, see the TVPRA and "The Interagency Memorandum of Understanding Between the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Justice," dated July 12, 2004, or as updated.)

9.8 Victim-Centered Approach

The enormous profits generated by human trafficking have attracted the interest of organized crime organizations and led to the significant involvement of such organizations into criminal human h·affickingtrafficking ventures. Traffickers exploit impoverished and vulnerable individuals seeking
a better life by offering false hopes of economic enrichment or, at the very least, economic opportunity and steady employment. Once ensnared by traffickers, victims are trapped in a world of fear, cruelty, and misery that is extremely difficult to escape. Traffickers use threats,

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intimidation, and extreme violence to maintain control of their victims and force them to toil in the most inhumane of conditions.

The sexual or economic exploitation of children for human trafficking purposes is one of the most reprehensible crimes within the investigative purview of HSI. Due to the nature of this offense, trafficking situations require specialized procedures and skills to assist the victims, especially child victims. SAs should utilize the VAC or the VAS to ensure that the needs of the victims are met. ~(Note: Additional information regarding the roles and responsibilities of the VAC and VAS is provided in Section 13.9 of this Handbook and in ICE Directive 10071.1, "“Victim Assistance Program,",” dated August 25, 2011, or as updated.)

Victims of trafficking are statutorily eligible for significant benefits under the law. SAs must provide CP to all victims, regardless of the victims'victims’ cooperation in the investigation. It should be
indicated in the CP application whether or not the victim is cooperating but this should have no bearing on the victim'svictim’s eligibility for CP. Human trafficking investigations should reflect a victim-centered approach whereby the identification, rescue, and protection of the victim is a priority and equally important to prosecuting the violator(s). SAs should always seek prosecution of human traffickers and the seizure of all their assets.

9.9 Human Trafficking Computer-Based Training for Special Agents

The mandatory Computer-Based Training on Human Trafficking for SAs provides specialized training as part of the DHS Blue Campaign - DHS'– DHS’ multi-faceted approach to combatting human
trafficking which includes public awareness, training, victim assistance, and law enforcement investigations. The course provides an overview of human trafficking, reality-based case scenarios, and the appropriate response when an HSI employee encounters a human trafficking
situation. All SAs are required to take this training one time. New SAs must take the course prior to the completion of their first year of employment.

Chapter 10. HUMAN SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING UNDERCOVER OPERATION AUTHORITY

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10.1 Authority

HSI is granted the authority to conduct undercover investigative operations under the ausoices of
the Homeland Security Act, 19 U.S.C. § 2081 and 8 U.S.C. § 1363a.fbl(7l(E)
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10.2 International Alien Transportation Operations
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10.3 Alien Transportation Operating Procedures

SAC offices must comply with the following procedures for all domestic and international operations regarding the transportation of UDAs:

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Chapter 11. APPLICABLE MONEY LAUNDERING LAWS IN SUPPORT OF HUMAN SMUGGLING AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATIONS

Since human smuggling and human trafficking criminal enterprises exist to make illicit profits, federal money laundering laws are appropriate and applicable to the investigation and prosecution of these types of criminal organizations. In fact, applying money laundering and asset forfeiture laws is a powerful means of attacking the human smuggling and human trafficking threat. Enhanced penalties for violating money laundering statutes are significant and include fines of up to $500,000 and/or imprisonment up to 20 years.

HSI initiated Project STAMP (Smuggler and Trafficker Assets, Monies, and Proceeds) in order to attack human smuggling and human trafficking through anti-money laundering means and by seizing any illicit assets, thereby shutting down the entrenched criminal activity.

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11.1 Money Laundering Laws

Federal money laundering laws require that there be a financial transaction involving proceeds of a specified unlawful activity (SUA) with knowledge by the transactor that the funds are proceeds of some felony, but the transaction must be accomplished or undertaken for a particular purpose, e.g., promote some violation which is in fact an SUA; conceal some aspect (ownership, source, location, etc.) of proceeds derived from an SUA; avoid a reporting requirement; or engage in income tax violations prohibited by 26 U.S.C. §§ 7201, 7206.

A. 18 U.S.C. § 1956 (a)(1) -– Domestic Transactions
B. 18 U.S.C. § 1956 (a)(2)-) – International Transactions
C. 18 U.S.C. § 1956 (a)(3) -– Sting operation
D. 18 U.S.C. § 1957 -– Transactions at Financial Institutions
E. 18 U.S.C. § 1956 (h) -– Money Laundering Conspiracy

11.2 Specified Unlawful Activities Related to Human Smuggling and Trafficking

A. 8 U.S.C. § 1324 - Bring– Bringing in and Harboring Certain Aliens
B. 8 U.S.C. § 1327 -–Aiding andor Assisting Certain Aliens to Enter
C. 8 U.S.C. § 1328 -– Importation of Alien for Immoral Purpose
D. 18 U.S.C. § 1581 -– Peonage ; obstructing enforcement
E. 18 U.S.C. § 1584 -– Sale into Involuntary Servitude

F. 18. U.S.C. §§ 2421-2423 - "– "Mann Act" "
G. 18. U.S.C. § 1591 -– Sex Trafficking of Children or by Force, Fraud, or Coercion
iliote(Note: SAs should seek more detailed guidance by consulting the Financial Investigations Handbook (HSI HB 14-03), dated May 13, 2014, or as updated.)
11.3 Forfeiture Laws
A. 18 U.S.C. 981 -– Civil Forfeiture
Civil forfeiture law embodies actions against a property in question with the requirement that the government establish probable cause that the property was

involved in smuggling and harboring, peonage, slavery, and trafficking in persons or money laundering as it relates to the aforementioned SUAs.

B. 18 U.S.C. 982- – Criminal Forfeiture
Criminal forfeiture law embodies actions against a person in question with the requirement that the government establish a beyond-a-reasonable-doubt guilt of a person and the person'sperson's proprietary interest in the property in the indictment. The criminal forfeiture law allows for the government to obtain a general judgment against a person and allows for substitution of assets if the property is not available.
(Note: SAs should seek more detailed guidance by consulting the Asset Forfeiture Handbook (HSI HB 10-04), dated June 30, 2010, or as updated.)
11.4 Financial Investigative Methodology
During human smuggling or human trafficking investigations, once SAs fully establish all the e l ements o f app r 1ca bl e SUA s as r 1ste d a b ove. aooroon. ate monev l aun d erm. !! l aws can b e mvo . k e d
in order to enhance the investigation. fblC7lCEl
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Chapter 12. HOSTAGE SITUATIONS
Hostage situations generally come to the attention of HSI as the result of a report by a family member or a sponsor of the hostage victim who has contacted a federal, state, or local law enforcement a enc with information ertainin to an extortion deman b members of an HSO.
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mcrease o t e smugg mg ee sat1s y t e cnmma elements necessary to initiate the investigation and prosecution of a hostage-taking violation. See 18 U.S.C. § 1203.

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12.1 Hostage Recovery
The primary goal of conducting a hostage-taking investigation is the successful recovery of the hostage(s). There are multiple methods that can be implemented to accomplish this goal. Determination of which method is the best for recoverv of the hosta2:e mav varv from case to case depending on several factors. l(b)(?)(E)
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12.2 Guidelines
Hostage situations can be dynamic and complex events; specific actions taken during a hostage situation need to be determined on a case-by-case basis. Exigent circumstances may require deviation from the following guidelines:
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~ (b)() (7)(E)

Chapter 13. IMMIGRATION RELIEF OPTIONS FOR HUMAN SMUGGLING AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATIONS

While conducting human smuggling or human trafficking investigations, SAs should be aware of the immigration relief options available when encountering foreign national victims/witnesses. These options should be used in instances where it has been determined that presence of the victim/witness is required and is in the U.S. Government'sGovernment's best interest. SAs must thoroughly evaluate the totality of circumstances, identify special considerations (i.e., juveniles, witnesses who are also victims, criminal history, immigration history, security concerns, etc.) and then select the most appropriate option. The following descriptions contain only brief summaries and are not intended to provide detailed protocols or procedures related to each option. (b) (7)(E)

13.1 Material Witness Warrant

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3144, a federal judge or magistrate may order the arrest of a witness in criminal proceedings upon the filing of an affidavit demonstrating that the witness' testimony is material to the case and that it may be impractical to secure the witness' presence by subpoena. The comt will determine if the witness shall be detained or released utilizing the conditions set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3142. Witnesses ordered to be detained are remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service. (b)() (7)(E)

13.2 Significant Public Benefit Parole

SPBP may be used to bring an alien victim/witness, and, in some cases, the victim's/witness' immediate family members, into the United States for 1-year intervals. SPBP may be used for alien witnesses in judicial, administrative, or legislative proceedings. SPBP may also be used for alien victims on a case-by-case basis for "urgent humanitarian reasons" or significant public benefit for any alien applying for admission to the United States. See 8 U.S.C. § 1182(d) (5)(A). An SPBP is not an admission into the United States; however, employment authorization may be granted.

(NQk_ Additional guidance for SPBP can be found in the 01 memorandum entitled, "Accountability of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Significant Public Benefit Paroles," dated June 27, 2006, or as updated, and the 01 memorandum entitled, "Interim Policy and Guidelines for Immediate Assumption of Significant Public Benefit Parole Responsibilities," dated August 8, 2006, or as updated.)

13.3 Def erred Action

Deferred action is "an act of administrative convenience to the government which gives some cases lower priority." See 8 ~~47~~ C.F.R. § 274a.12(c)(14). In some cases, the determination to issue a
deferred action is a discretionary decision made by the SAC. In other cases, such as when a victim has applied for certain benefits, the consideration of deferred action has been established
as a matter of policy. Deferred action does not confer legal immigration status upon a victim/witness. An alien victim/witness granted deferred action may, upon application, be granted employment authorization. See 8 C.F.R. § 274a.12(c)(14).

13.4 Administrative Stay of Removal

An Administrative Stay of Removal (ASR) may be used for an alien witness with a Final Order of Removal. See 8 C.F.R. § 241.6. An ASR may be used when an alien is needed to "testify in the prosecution of a person for a violation of a law of the United States or of any State." See 8 U.S.C. § 1231(c) (2)(A)(ii). SACs should coordinate this option with the local ERO Field Office Director who has the discretionary authority to issue an ASR. An ASR does not confer legal immigration status upon an alien witness and the alien witness is not authorized to receive employment authorization based solely upon the ASR.

13.5 S Nonimmigrant Status

The S nonimmigrant status (also referred to as the "S Visa") may be granted to an alien witness and, in some cases, to the witness' immediate family members whose presence is "essential to the success of an authorized criminal investigation or the successful prosecution of an individual
involved in the criminal organization or enterprise." See 8 U.S.C. § 1101 (a) (15)(S)(i)(III). An alien who is granted the S nonimmigrant status is eligible to receive employment authorization.

A sponsoring office may apply for the S nonimmigrant status using an Inter-Agency Alien Witness and Informant Record (USCIS Form I-854). SACs are advised to coordinate their requests with the Victim Assistance Program and Management Oversight (V AP/MO) Unit, ISD.

13.6 Departure Control Order

Although it does not provide the authority to physically detain any aliens, 8 U.S.C. § 1185 permits DHS to prevent the departure of certain aliens from the United States. The regulations implementing this provision state that the departure of an "alien who is needed in the United States as a witness in, or as a party to, any criminal case under investigation or pending in a court
in the United States" shall be deemed prejudicial to the interests of the United States. See 8 C.F.R. § 215.3(g). When a departure control officer knows, or has reason to believe, that such person is going to depart, the officer shall serve such person with a written temporary order directing that the person shall not depart until further notified. See 8 C.F .R. § 215 .2(a). The issuance of a Departme Control Order is issued upon the alien and cannot be used as a substitute
for an ASR. SACs are delegated departure control authority in ICE Delegation Number 0001 entitled, "Delegation of Authority to the Directors, Detention and Removal and Investigations, and to Field Office Directors, Special Agents in Charge and Certain Other Officers of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement," dated June 6, 2003, or as updated.

13.~~(b) (~~7 Continued Presence

HSI recognizes that, in order to successfully investigate and prosecute traffickers, victims must b

e stable and free from fear and intimidation to be effective witnesses. Equal value should be plac
ed on the identification and rescue of victims and the prosecution of traffickers. Short-
term immigration benefits shall be provided to certified victims of human trafficking in the form of CP and can be requested only bv a federal law enforcement agency with imisdiction to investi Elate human traffickinE! violations. l(b)(?)()(E)
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The Secretary of OHS may permit these victims to remain in the United States to facilitate the investigation and prosecution of those individuals responsible for such offense. CP is initially granted for 12 months, is adjudicated by the Law Enforcement Parole Section
(LEPS), Parole and Law Enforcement Programs Unit, TCPSD, and can be extended if necessary. After it adjudicates a CP application, LEPS informs the USCIS Vermont Service Center for production of the Employment Authorization Document. USCIS then issues an Employment Authorization Document and an Arrival-Departure Record (CBP Form I-
94) to the victim. Once a cooperating victim has been granted CP, the victim is also statutorily eligible for many additional benefits, including, but not limited to, mental health services, health

care assistance, housing or shelter assistance, food assistance, income assistance, employment as
sistance, and English language training.
During the investigation and prosecution of the suspected traffickers, SAs should make reasonabl
e efforts to protect the safety of trafficking victims. This should include protection of trafficking victims and their families from intimidation, threats of reprisals, and reprisals from traffickers an
d their associates. SAs should be aware that,
in addition to CP, law enforcement officials may also submit written requests to the Secretary of DHS, in accordance with the INA, to permit the parole into the United States of certain relatives of alien human trafficking victims or victims granted CP. If appropriate, victims and their family members may also be considered for the HSI Exigent Security for Witnesses Program (ESWP). iliote: SAs should contact the V AP/MO Unit for more information on the
ESWP. For further guidance concerning CP, SAs should refer to section 205 of the TVPRA and contact their local VAC or VAS.)
13.8 T Nonimmigrant Status and U Nonimmigrant Status
The T nonimmigrant status and the U nonimmigrant status are used in human trafficking investigations as benefits for the victims of such crimes. While the T nonimmigrant status is used specifically for human trafficking cases, the U nonimmigrant status covers various criminal activities, including trafficking. See 8 C.F.R. § § 214.11 and 214.14. Qualifying crimes for the U nonimmigrant status include, but are not limited to, kidnapping, manslaughter, peonage, sexual
assault, and domestic violence. (Note: For further guidance, see the T Nonimmigrant Status Handbook (01 HB 09-03), dated October 5, 2009, or as updated, and the U Nonimmigrant Status Handbook (01 HB 09-04), dated December 1, 2009, or as updated.)
13.9 Victim Assistance Coordinators and Victim Assistance Specialists
Due to the complex nature of human trafficking cases and the multitude of short-term and long-

tenn needs experienced by victims, HSI human trafficking investigations are closely coordinated with activities provided under the V AP. HSI VACs and VASs are responsible for ensuring that victims are afforded their rights under the law and are connected to emergency services and resources. Each SAC office has SAs who are assigned the collateral duty of serving as V ACs and receive special training on V AC responsibilities. In addition, there are full-time V ASs located in various SAC offices nationwide. There are also victim assistance subject matter experts at HSI HQ in the V AP Section, V AP/MO Unit, ISD, who provide training, technical assistance, and case consultation to field offices, as needed. If victim services are needed for an investigation, SAs should contact their local V AC or VAS for resources and assistance.
VA Cs and V ASs are trained to recognize indicators of human trafficking during the course of an investigation and to provide direct support and assistance when victims are encountered. VA Cs and VASs are responsible for ensuring that victims are aware of their rights under the TVPA and other relevant federal laws. They are also responsible for assisting case agents with applying for CP on behalf of victims; arranging suitable housing, health care, interpreter services, and other basic needs in the immediate aftermath of a rescue; and ensuring that law enforcement interviews
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Chapter 14. CASE MANAGEMENT

In order to appropriately document investigations, proper case management must be followed. It is important for SAC offices, and thus SAs, to properly categorize and code their cases in order to streamline the process of reporting, querying, intelligence gathering, and resource allocation.
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14.1 TECS Case Categories

Case categor~b)(?)(E) !category Human Smuggling/Trafficking, shall be utilized for all human smuggling and h·affickingtrafficking cases entered into TECS. Although there may be some overlap between these two criminal activities, they are two distinctly different federal violations and must be tracked accordingly. The rimaryprimary program codes under this category are~b)(?)(E for human smuggling investigations and ~tlC for human trafficking investigations. In addition, the subcategory program codes listed in Section 14.2 below shall be used to further classify each case.

14.2 TECS Program Codes

SAs should be aware that human smuggling and human trafficking cases sometimes cross over into other program areas (e.g., Worksite Enforcement, Identity and Benefit Fraud, etc.) and the secondary program codes for these areas should therefore be utilized in addition to the fbl(?)(EllndandEllnd tb)(?)(Eprimary primary program codes.

General program codes used in TECS for human smuggling and human trafficking investigations are as follows:

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Chapter 15. INVESTIGATIVE RESOURCES

When conducting human smuggling or trafficking investigations, SAs need to be aware of organizations and entities that will aid in primary and secondary aspects of their investigations.

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These groups provide SAs with invaluable forms of intelligence, organization, and victim assistance to what can become very complex cases. The following Sections detail some of the primary resources needed to help conduct human smuggling and human trafficking investigations effectively.

15.1 Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit

HSTU can be contacted as follows:

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Homeland Security Investigations
500 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20536 ,,,.,.,.,=.,...----------, Human Trafficking:1,.,,b..,.)(7
=)(""""E""""") ------..------"=:...:::.:.:. =~o:.....:....v
Human Smuggling: (b)(7)(E)

(Note: SAs can access additional contact information for HSTU on rb)(?)(El ~--~

15.2 Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center

HSTC was established by the Intelligence Refonn and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 to provide greater coordination between state, federal, and international authorities involving human smuggling, human trafficking, and clandestine terrorist travel. HSTC facilitates the broad
dissemination of all-source information, prepares strategic assessments, identifies issues for interagency coordination or attention, and coordinates and provides support for select initiatives.

Participating federal agencies include the Depa1tment of State, DHS, DOJ, and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. Further information regarding the HSTC may be found on HSI Net at the following address or website:

Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center
1800 G Street NWJbl(7l(E) I
Washington, DC 20223
rb)(7)(E)

15.3 National Human Trafficking Resource Center

The NHTRC is an HHS-funded program implemented for the purpose of providing a national,

24-hour human trafficking hotline in the United States. The NHTRC fields calls from potential victims, community members, and law enforcement agencies ranging from human trafficking tips and training requests to trafficking response situations. It also provides services including crisis calls from victims, tip reporting, training requests, urgent and non-urgent referrals, and general information requests. The NHTRC can be contacted at:
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52 FOR OFFICIAL US USE ONLY
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15.4 Victim Assistance Program
Due to the complex nature of human trafficking cases and the multitude of short-term and long-
Due to the complex natme of human trafficking cases and the multitude of short-term and long-
term needs experienced by victims, HSI human trafficking investigations are closely linked to the VAP. The responsibility for ensuring that victims'victims' needs are met lies with collateral-duty
V ACsVACs working in HSI and ERO field offices, as well as with full-time V ASsVASs at HSI and ERO
HQ and field offices. If V ACVAC services are needed for an investigation, SAs should consult with
their SAC office VAS or V ACVAC for assistance. The HSI V APVAP is in the V APVAP/MO Unit, ISD, and
can be contacted at:
HSI Victim Assistance Program:
Phone·l<bl(?){El I
Ema1·1j(b)(?)(E) b ..... _____ __.~Email @dhs.gov
15.5 Forensic Interview Program
The V APVAP has full-time forensic interview specialists available to support domestic and international investigations involving victims, particularly in the areas of child exploitation and human trafficking. The purpose of a forensic interview is to assist in the dete1minationdetermination of
whether or not a crime has occurred and to assess the victim'svictim's safety in his or her current
situation. Forensic interview specialists are available to all victims, but their expertise is children.
(b)(?)(E)
l(b)(?)(El I (See the HSI
memorandum, "The Forensic Interview Program," dated September 16, 2009, or as updated, for
additional information.)
To request assistance with scheduling a forensic interviewer to aid their investigation, SAs should contact the V APVAP at HSI HQ which can be contacted at:
Forensic Interviews:
Phone b)(?)(El:
Email bl(7l(El :@ice.dhs. ov gov
(b) (7)(E)
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15.6 Office of Refugee Resettlement

ORR is part of the Administration for Children and Families under HHS. ORR provides assistance through NGOs for victims of human trafficking by helping with resources like housing, living assistance, providing certifications for foreign adult victims of human trafficking, and eligibility letters to foreign minor victims of human trafficking. Certifications and eligibility letters grant foreign victims access to federal benefits and services to the same extent as refugees,
including monetary and medical assistance, social services, health care, and foster care. ORR can be contacted at:

Office of Refugee Resettlement
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Aerospace Building
901 D Street, SW
WashirnrtonWashington, DC 20447
b)(7)(E)

15.7 Non-Governmental Organizations

NGOs are organizations that are not a paiipart of a federal, state, or local government. For the purposes of HSI, NGOs are generally organizations or agencies that provide one or more social services to trafficking survivors and victims of other crimes. These service providers have an important role in the stabilization and long-term recovery of trafficking victims and often provide access to the following short-term and long-term services. Short-term services include, but are not limited to, shelter, food, clothing, medical care, and dental care. Long-term services include, but are not limited to, mental health, English language training, job skill training, and case management.

NGOs also provide or work with partner agencies that can provide immigration advocacy and legal services to trafficking victims which is a critical resource for victims who pursue civil cases or TorT or U nonimmigrant status. Many NGOs are community organizations, faith-based organizations, or agencies whose primary mission is to provide assistance to victims of domestic
abuse or sexual assault. Since there is no organization with the capacity to meet the wide range of trafficking victims'victims' needs single-handedly, NGOs usually work in collaboration with counterparts in a task force model. It should be noted that, while most trafficking victim service agencies are NGOs, there are many public agencies, especially at the local level, that also provide direct services to trafficking victims.

15.8 HSI Office of Intelligence

The HSI Office of Intelligence collects, analyzes, and shares timely and accurate intelligence on illicit trade, illicit travel, and illicit financial activity with a U.S. nexus. SAs are encouraged to utilize their local Intelligence Research Specialists to assist with investigative efforts, including
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15.9 Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit

HTPU is part of the DOJ Civil Rights Division'sDivision's Criminal Section and it serves to consolidate
the expertise and resources of experienced human trafficking prosecutors. HTPU prosecutors work closely with the AUSAs and law enforcement agencies to streamline fast-moving trafficking investigations, ensure consistent application of trafficking statutes, and identify multijurisdictional trafficking networks. Early notification of any case with potential human trafficking angles allows HTPU to provide technical assistance, legal guidance, and coordination between districts prosecuting overlapping criminal network. (See the DOJ memorandum, "Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit," dated September 12, 2012, or as updated.) HTPU can be
contacted through HSTU.

15.10 Human Rights and Special Prosecution Section

The DOJ Criminal Division'sDivision's HRSP Section prosecutes members of international criminal
networks who seek to evade U.S. immigration laws, such as smuggling persons into the United States. (See the DOJ memorandum, "Human Rights and Special Prosecution Section," dated September 12, 2012, or as updated.) http://www.justice.gov/criminal/hrsp/. HRSP also assists in the prosecution of ECT and IP ASIPAS investigations. HRSP can be contacted through HSTU.

15.11 International Organized Crime Intelligence and Operations Center

The International Organized Crime Intelligence and Operations Center (IOC2) utilizes existing resources and databases of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Fusion Center and Special Operations Division (SOD) to share intelligence, deconflict operations, and produce actionable leads for investigators and prosecutors working nationwide.

IOC2 can further help conduct case coordination in furtherance of the investigations. (Note: When requesting the telephone searches from IOC2, SOD results are automatically included. IOC2 can be contacted at:

National Program Manager
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Homeland Security Investigations
OCDETF Fusion Center
International Organized Crime Intelligence and Operations Center (IOC2)
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(b) (7)(E)

15.12 Special Operations Division

SOD can query telephone numbers to deconflict with other federal investigations. SOD can be contacted at:

Program Manager, Special Operations Division
Email: @ice.dhs.gov

15.13 Undercover Operations

Undercover operations can be used to fund travel for SAs to follow victims outside their AOR. (Note: SAs should contact the Undercover Operations Unit for further information.)

15.14 Counterterrorism and Criminal Exploitation Unit

The Counterterrorism and Criminal Exploitation Unit (CTCEU) brings special skill sets to human smuggling and trafficking cases that involve certain visa classes such as F, M, and J visas.

CTCEU's~~CTCEU's~~ SEVIS Exploitation Section~~Fraud Investigations (SFI)~~ may be contacted by SAs any time the smuggling scheme being used involves F, M, or J visas or academic, vocational and/or flight schools. CTCEU has the capability to analyze a large volume of data pertaining to schools, programs, and student and exchange visitor visa holders and compare them to current trends, intelligence, and law enforcement reporting to uncover human smuggling or trafficking.

(Note: CTCEU can be contacted a.... l <b_l< 7 _i<_E_l__ __.~hs~~at @ice.dhs~~.gov; additional information can be found on HSI Net.)

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Appendix A

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERCOVER ALIEN SMUGGLING INVESTIGATIONS APPROVAL GUIDANCE CHART

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Appendix B

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INTERVIEW QUESTIONS
FOR HUMAN SMUGGLING INVESTIGATIONS
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Human Smuggling and Trafficking /11ves1igatio11sInvestigations Handbook C-ii FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
August 21, 20/ 5 2015 LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE
C-i
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Appendix C
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Human Smuggling and Trafficking /11ves1igatio11sInvestigations Handbook C-iii FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
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2021-icli-00031 222
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Human Smuggling and Trafficking /11ves1igatio11sInvestigations Handbook D-ii FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
August 21, 2015 LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE
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August 21, 20/ 5 2015 LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE
2021-icli-00031 224
D-ii
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Appendix G
SUPERSEDED DOCUMENTS
The Human Smuggling and Trafficking Investigations Handbook supersedes the following documents:

Homeland Security Investigations Memorandum
1. Domestic and International Undercover Alien Smuggling Investigations (March 23, 2012)
Office of Investigations Memoranda
1. Human Trafficking Notification Requirements (April 30, 2010)
2. New Project Code 6AB for ICE HT Outreach Campaign (March 1, 2009)
3. Extraterritorial Criminal Strike Force (August 1, 2008)
4. Options and Forms of Immigration Relief for Victims and Witnesses in ICE Investigations (January 22, 2008)
5. ICE Trafficking in Persons Strategy (ICE TIPS): Responding to Trafficking Victims Leads (July 27, 2007)
6. Trafficking in Persons Assessment (December 17, 2006)
7. Definitions of "Human Smuggling" and "Human Trafficking" (December 13, 2004)
8. Standard Operating Procedure Domestic and International Transportation of Undocumented Aliens (December 3, 2004)
9. Standard Operating Procedure Human Smuggling Proprietary Safe House Operations (March 8, 2004)
U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service Special Agent Field Manual
Chapter 27 of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service Special Agent Field Manual entitled, "Smuggling Investigations," was cancelled by the Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit on August 12, 2010.

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FOUO
HB
HHS
HQ
HRSP
HSI
HSO
HSTC
HSTU
HTO
HTPU
ICE
INA
IOC2
IP
IPAS
ISD
~~Appendix H~~
ACRONYMS
~~ACTeam~~ Anti-Trafficking Coordination Team
~~AD~~ Assistant Director
~~AIRG~~ Asset Identification and Removal Group
~~AO~~ Asylum Officer
~~AOR~~ Area of Responsibility
~~ASR~~ Administrative Stay of Removal
~~AUSA~~ Assistant United States Attorney
~~CBP~~ U.S. Customs and Border Protection
~~C.F.R.~~ Code of Federal Regulations
~~CI~~ Confidential Informant
~~CP~~ Continued Presence
~~CUC~~ Certified Undercover Operation
~~DAD~~ Deputy Assistant Director
~~DHS~~ Department of Homeland Security
~~DOJ~~ Department of Justice
~~DRO~~ Detention and Removal Operations
~~DUCS~~ Division of Unaccompanied Children's~~Children's~~ Services
~~EAD~~ Executive Associate Director
ExtrateITitorial~~ECT Extraterritorial~~ Criminal Travel
~~ENFORCE~~ Enforcement Case Tracking System
~~EOIR~~ Executive Office for Immigration Review
~~ERO~~ Enforcement and Removal Operations
~~ESWP~~ Exigent Security for Witnesses Program
~~FOJC~~ Field Office Juvenile Coordinator
~~FOUO~~ For Official Use Only
~~HB~~ Handbook
~~HHS~~ Department of Health and Human Services
~~HQ~~ Headquarters
~~HRSP~~ Human Rights and Special Prosecutions
~~HSI~~ Homeland Security Investigations
~~HSO~~ Human Smuggling Organization
~~HSTC~~ Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center
~~HSTU~~ Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit

HTO Human Trafficking Organization
HTPU Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit
ICE U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
INA Immigration and Nationality Act
IOC2 Appendix H
International Organized Crime and Intelligence Operations Center
IP Internet Protocol
IPAS Illicit Pathways Attack Strategy
ISD Investigative Services Division

ISP
ISU
LEPS
NGO
NHTRC
OAM
OBP
occ
OCDETF
OFO
or
ORR
POE
RFI
RICO
ROI
SA
SAC
SCR
SEVIS
SIA
SIR
SOD
SPBP
SRT
SUA
TOC
TCPSD
TVPA
TVPRA
UCA
UDA
USAO
U.S.C.
USCIS
VAC
VAP

VAS
Internet Service Provider
ISU Investigative Support Unit
LEPS Law Enforcement Parole Section
NGO Non-Governmental Organization
NHTRC National Human Trafficking Response Center
OAM Office of Air and Marine
OBP Office of Border Patrol
OCC Office of the Chief Counsel
OCDETF Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force
OFO Office of Field Operations
OI Office of Investigations
ORR Office, of Refugee Resettlement
POE Port of Entry
RFI Request for Information
RICO Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization
ROI Report of Investigation
SA Special Agent
SAC Special Agent in Charge
SCR Significant Case Repo1t Report
SEVIS Student and Exchange Visitor Information System
SIA Special Interest Alien
SIR Significant Incident Report
SOD Special Operations Division
SPBP Significant Public Benefit Parole
SRT Special Response Team
SUA Specified Unlawful Activity
TOC Transnational Organized Crime
TCPSD Transnational Crime and Public Safety Division
TVPA Trafficking Victims Protection Act
TVPRA Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act
UCA Undercover Agent
UDA Undocumented Alien
USAO U.S. Attorney'sAttorney's Office
U.S.C. United States Code
USCIS U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
VAC Victim Assistance Coordinator
VAP Victim Assistance Program
VAS Victim Assistance Specialist
Human Smuggling and Trafficking /11ves1igatio11s Handbook
August 2 1, 20/ 5
H-ii
2021-icli-00031 234